

APPENDIX B

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND CONCEPTS

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

AGE

Data on *age* were derived from answers to questionnaire item 5 (date of birth). The information was based on the completed age of the person (in years) as of February 15, 1997.

Data on *age* are used to determine the applicability of other questions and to classify other characteristics in census tabulations. Age data are needed to interpret most social and economic characteristics used to plan and examine many programs and policies. Therefore, *age* was tabulated by single years of age and by other groupings, such as 5-year age groups. Where tabulations are shown for families or households, data refer to the age of the householders.

Median Age - This measure divides the age distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases fall below the median age and the other half above it. Generally, median age was computed on the basis of more detailed age intervals than are shown in census tabulations; thus, a median based on a less detailed distribution may differ slightly from a corresponding median for the same population based on a more detailed distribution. (For more information on medians, see the discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

Limitation of the Data - Counts in the 1980 and 1970 censuses for persons 100 years old and over were substantially overstated. To minimize this problem, improvements were then made in the questionnaire design and in the allocation procedures for the 1990 census.

As observed in every census, respondents tended to round off their age if their birthdays fell close to the enumeration period. The problem was more pronounced at age 0 because infants lost to age 1 might not have been fully offset by the inclusion of babies born after the Survey day.

Comparability - Age data have been collected in every census. When age was unknown, the assignment of age had been performed by a general procedure described as imputation. The specific procedures for

imputing age have been different in every census.

CITIZENSHIP

Data on citizenship were derived from answers to questionnaire item 8, which was asked of all persons. Data on citizenship provide information on the proportion of citizens and immigrants in the country. The six categories of citizenship adopted in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey were as follows:

- Palau citizen, born in Palau;
- Naturalized Palau citizen - A foreign-born person was considered in this category if he/she had completed the naturalization process at the time of the census and upon whom the rights of Palau citizenship had been conferred;
- Born in the U.S. or U.S. territory such as Guam, American Samoa, etc.;
- Naturalized US citizen - A person was considered in this category if he/she had completed the naturalization process and was a U.S. citizen at the time of census;
- Permanent resident - This referred to a person who was not a citizen or national, but was permanently residing in Palau; and
- Temporary resident - This referred to a person who was not a citizen or national, but was residing temporarily in Palau and intended to return to previous or another country of residence.

Born outside Palau - consisted of persons who were naturalized Palau citizen, born in the U.S. or territory, naturalized U.S. citizen, and permanent and temporary residents.

Not a citizen - consisted of non-Palauan citizens who were born in U.S. or territory, naturalized U.S. citizen, and permanent and temporary residents.

Limitation of the Data - Studies after previous censuses showed that some persons undergoing

naturalization might have reported themselves as citizens although they have not yet attained the status.

Comparability - The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey data on citizenship are comparable to some extent with those of 1990. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented breakdown of Palau citizens: *Born in Palau* and *Naturalized Palau citizen*; the second category of which did not appear in the 1990 Census. The 1995 categories *permanent resident* and *temporary resident*, when taken together, corresponded to the category *Not born in Palau and Not a US citizen* of the 1990 census. The last two categories were adopted for the first time in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, MAJOR IN COLLEGE- Data on educational attainment were derived from answers to questionnaire item 13, which were asked of all persons. The question included response categories, which allowed persons to report having completed the 12th grade without receiving a high school diploma. Respondents were to report as *high school graduate/s* persons who received either a high school diploma or the equivalent, passed the Test of General Education Development (G.E.D.), and did not attend college.

Enumerators were instructed that schooling completed in foreign or ungraded school systems should be reported as the equivalent level of schooling in the regular American system; that vocational certificates/diplomas from vocational, trade, or business schools or colleges were not to be reported unless they were college level degrees; and that honorary degrees were also not to be reported. The instructions gave *medicine, dentistry, chiropractic medicine, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, podiatry, veterinary medicine, law and theology* as examples of professional school degrees. Excluded from the professional school degree category were *barber school, cosmetology or other training for specific trade*.

Data on educational attainment were tabulated for persons 25 years old and over. In the tabulations, persons were classified according to the highest grade of school completed or the highest degree received.

High School Graduate or Higher - included persons whose highest degree was a high school diploma or its equivalent, persons who attended college or professional school, and persons who received a college, university, or professional degree.

Not Enrolled, Not High School Graduate - included

persons of compulsory school attendance age who were not enrolled in school and were not high school graduates; these persons may be taken to be *high school dropouts*. There was no restriction when they dropped out of school, and they may have never attended high school.

Comparability - Educational attainment questions were first asked in the 1970 census. In 1950, a single question was asked on highest grade of school completed. In the censuses of 1960 through 1980, a two-part question asking highest grade of school attended and whether that grade was finished was used to construct highest grade or year of school completed. For persons who have not attended college, the response categories in the 1990 educational attainment question should produce data, which are comparable to data on highest grade completed from earlier censuses.

Response categories for persons who have attended college were modified from earlier censuses because there was some ambiguity in interpreting responses in terms of the number of years of college completed. For instance, it was not clear whether *completed the fourth year of college, completed the senior year of college, and college graduates* were synonymous. Research conducted shortly before the census suggested that these terms were more distinct in 1990 than in earlier decades, and this change may have threatened the ability to estimate the number of *college graduates* from the number of persons reported as having completed the fourth or higher year of college. It was even more difficult to make inferences about post-baccalaureate and *associate* degrees from highest year of college completed. Thus, comparisons of post-secondary educational attainment in this and earlier censuses should be made with great caution.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Data on employment status were derived from answers to questionnaire items 20 through 25, which were asked of persons 15 years old and over. The series of questions on employment status was designed to identify, in this sequence: persons who worked at a job or business or farm at any time during the reference week; persons who did not do such work during the reference week, but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent (excluding layoff); persons on layoff; persons who did not do such work during the reference week, but were looking for work to earn money during the last 4 weeks and were available for work during the reference week.

The employment status data shown in the census tabulations related to persons 16 years old and over. Though the questions on employment status were asked of persons including those with age 15 years, by definition, these persons are classified as *Not in the labor force*. In 1940, 1950 and 1960, employment status data were presented for persons 14 years old and over. The change in the universe was made in 1970 to agree with the official measurement of the labor force as revised in January 1967 by the U.S. Department of Labor. The 1970 census was the last to show employment data for persons 14 and 15 years old.

Civilian Labor Force-This consisted of persons classified as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described below.

Labor Force-All persons classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the Armed Forces (persons on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard.)

Employed-All civilians who were 16 years old and over who were either (a) *at work* - those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees or in their own business or profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 or more hours as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (b) were *with a job but not at work* - those who did not do such work during the reference week, but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed were persons without jobs or businesses whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; persons without jobs or businesses who did subsistence activity only during the reference week; and persons on active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

Unemployed-All civilians 16 years old and over who (a) were neither *at work* nor *with a job but not at work* during the reference week, or who did subsistence activity only; (b) were looking for work to earn money during the last 4 weeks; and were available to accept a job during the reference week. Examples of job seeking activities were:

Registering at a public or private employment office, meeting with prospective employers, investigating possibilities for starting a professional practice or opening a business, placing or answering advertisements, writing letters of application, being on a union or professional register. Also included as

unemployed were civilians 16 years old and over who did not work at a job or business during the reference week and were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off.

Experienced Unemployed - These were unemployed persons who have worked at any time in the past.

Experienced Civilian Labor Force - These consisted of the employed and the experienced unemployed.

Not in the Labor Force - These consisted of all persons 16 years old and over who were not classified as members of the labor force. This category consisted mainly of persons doing subsistence activity only, students, housewives, retired workers, seasonal workers enumerated in an *off* season who were not looking for work, institutionalized persons, and persons doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the reference week).

Subsistence Activity - A person was engaged in subsistence activities if he/she mainly produced goods for his/her own or family's use and needs, such as growing/gathering food, fishing, cutting copra for home use, raising livestock, making handicrafts for home use, and other productive activities not primarily for commercial purposes. When subsistence activity categories are shown with the *Employed* and the *Not in Labor Force*, they related to activities engaged in during the census reference week. Persons who *did subsistence activity only* during the reference week were not classified as *employed*, unless they were with a job but not at work (see definition of *employed*).

Worker - The term appears in connection with several subjects, for example, place of work, class of worker, weeks worked in 1996, and workers in family in 1996. Its meaning varies and, therefore, should be determined in each case by referring to the definition of the subject in which it appears.

Actual Hours Worked Last Week - All persons who reported working at a job or business or farm during the reference week were asked to report in questionnaire item 20 the number of hours that they worked, excluding any time at subsistence activity. The statistics on hours worked for *employed*, *at work* persons pertain to the number of hours actually worked at all jobs, and do not necessarily reflect the number of hours typically or usually worked or the scheduled number of hours. The concept of *actual hours* differed from that of usual hours worked described below. The number of persons who worked

only a small number of hours was probably understated since such persons sometimes considered themselves as *not working*. Respondents were asked to include overtime or extra hours worked, but to exclude lunch hours, sick leave, and vacation leave.

Limitation of the Data - The census may have understated the number of employed persons because persons who had irregular, casual, or unstructured jobs sometimes reported themselves as *not working*. The number of employed persons *at work* was probably overstated in the census (and conversely, the number of employed *with a job but not at work* was understated) since some persons on vacation or sick leave erroneously reported themselves as *working*. This problem had no effect whatsoever on the total number of employed persons.

The reference week for the employment data was not the same for all persons. This lack of uniform reference week may mean that the employment data do not reflect the reality of the employment situation of any given week. (For more information, see the discussion under *Reference Week*.)

Comparability - The questionnaire items and employment status concepts for the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey were essentially the same as those used in the 1990 and 1980 censuses. However, these concepts differed in many respects from those associated with earlier censuses.

Since employment data from the census are obtained from respondents in households, they differ from statistics based on reports from individual business establishments, farm enterprises, and certain government programs. Persons employed at more than one job are counted only once in the census and are classified according to the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours during the reference week. In establishments-based statistics, persons who worked for more than one establishment may be counted more than once. Moreover, other series, unlike those presented in the census, may exclude private household workers, unpaid family workers, and self-employed persons, but may include workers less than 16 years of age.

An additional difference in the data arises because persons who *had a job but were not at work* were included with the *employed* statistics shown in the census, whereas many of these persons are likely to be excluded from employment figures based on establishment payroll reports. Furthermore, the employment status data in the census included persons on the basis of usual place of residence regardless of where they worked, whereas establishment data report persons at their place of work regardless of where they

live. This latter consideration is particularly significant when comparing data for workers who commute between areas.

Census data on hours worked during the reference week may differ from data from other sources. The census measured hours actually worked, whereas some surveys measure hours paid for by employers.

ETHNICITY

Data on ethnic origin were derived from answers to questionnaire item 4, which was asked of all persons. The concept of ethnic origin as used by the US Census Bureau reflected self-identification; it did not denote any clear-cut scientific definition of biological stock. The data for ethnicity represented self-classification by people according to the race with which they most closely identify. Furthermore, it was recognized that the categories of the race item included both racial and national origin or socio-cultural groups.

In general, *ethnic origin* or *race* refers to a person's origin or descent, *roots* or heritage. It may also refer to where the person or his/her parents were born. Thus, a person may have reported his/her ethnic origin based on the origin or race of parent, grandparent or more distant ancestors.

During direct interviews conducted by enumerators, if a person could not provide a single response to the ethnicity question, he/she was asked to select, based on self-identification, the group which best described his/her racial identity. If a person could not provide a single race response, the race of the mother was used. If a single race response could not be provided for the person's mother, the first race reported by the person was used. In all tabulations where households or families were classified by ethnic origin, the ethnic origin of the householder was used.

The racial classification used by the US Census Bureau generally adhered to the guidelines in Federal Statistical Directive No. 15, issued by the Office of Management and Budget, which provided standards on ethnic and racial categories for statistical reporting to be used by all Federal agencies.

If the race entry for a member of a household was missing on the questionnaire, race was assigned based upon the reported entries of race by other household members using specific rules of precedence of household relationship. For example, if race were missing for the daughter of the householder, then the race of her mother (as female householder or female spouse) would be assigned. If no female householder or spouse were in the household, the daughter would be assigned her father's (male householder) race. If race

was not reported for anyone in the household, the race of a householder in a previously processed household was assigned. This procedure was a variation of the general imputation procedures described in Appendix C, *Accuracy of Data*.

FERTILITY

Data on fertility (also referred to as *children ever born*) were derived from answers to questionnaire items 18a through 18c. Questions on the number of children ever born, number of children still alive, and the date of birth of last child were asked of all women 15 years and over, regardless of their marital status.

Data are most frequently presented in terms of the aggregate number of children ever born to women in the specific 5-year age groups and in terms of the rate per 1,000 women.

Children Ever Born - These included all live births the woman had *ever* had, including any babies who died (even shortly after birth). Ever-married women were instructed to include all children born to them during their previous and recent marriage/s and those born out of wedlock, children no longer living, children away from home, as well as children still living at home. Never married women were also instructed to report all children born to them. Excluded from the number of children *ever born* were foster children, stepchildren, adopted children, miscarriages and stillbirths (a birth at which a baby showed no sign of life).

One measure derived from this data is the *number of children ever born per 1000 women* in a particular age group. More important is the number of children ever born to a woman with ages 45-49 years as this would indicate the number of children a woman would have in her reproductive period.

Children Still Alive - These included the number of children the women had ever had and were still alive at the time of the enumeration.

Comparability - The wording of the question on *children ever born* was the same in the 1995, 1990 and 1985 censuses. In the 1970 census tabulations, data presented on children ever born to all women assumed that single women were childless, even though it was known that some of them have had children. Therefore, rates and numbers of children ever born were not comparable between 1980 reports and previous census reports. Data presented for *children*

ever born between 1980 and 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey reports are comparable as well as tables for all census years that show data for ever-married women.

The questions on the number of children still alive and the date of birth of last child were asked for the first time in the 1995 Census, and were used again in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey.

GROUP QUARTERS

All persons not living in households were classified by the Census Bureau as living in *group quarters*. Two general categories of persons in group-quarters were recognized: institutionalized persons and other persons in group quarters (also referred to as *non-institutional group quarters*).

Institutionalized Persons - These included persons under formally authorized and supervised care or custody in institutions at the time of enumeration. Such persons were classified as patients or inmates of an institution regardless of the availability of nursing or medical care, the length of stay, or the number of persons in the institution. Generally, institutionalized persons are restricted to the institutional buildings and grounds (or must have passes or escorts to leave) and thus have limited interaction with the surrounding community. Also, they are generally under the care of trained staff who has responsibility for their safekeeping and supervision.

Type of Institution - The type of institution was determined as part of census enumeration activities. Institutions included the following: Correctional institutions which included prisons, Federal detention centers, military stockades or jails, local jails and other confinement facilities; Nursing homes; Mental hospitals; Hospitals for chronically ill; Schools, hospitals or wards for the mentally retarded; Schools, hospitals or wards for the physically handicapped; Hospitals and wards for drug/alcohol abuse; Wards in General and Military Hospitals for patients who have *No Usual Home elsewhere*; and Juvenile institutions.

Other Persons in Group-Quarters (also referred to as *Non-institutional Group-Quarters*)- These included all persons who lived in group quarters other than institutions. Persons who lived in the following living quarters were classified as *other persons in group quarters* when there were 10 or more unrelated persons living in the unit; otherwise, these living quarters were classified as *housing units*: Rooming

houses; Group homes for the mentally ill, mentally retarded, physically handicapped, drug/alcohol abuse or other group homes; and Religious Group Quarters.

Persons residing in certain other types of living arrangements were classified as living in non-institutional *group quarters* regardless of the number of people sharing the unit. These included persons residing in the following type of group quarters: college dormitories, military quarters, workers dormitories, emergency shelters for homeless persons, crews of maritime vessels, and staff residents of institutions.

Comparability - For the 1990 census, the definition of institutionalized persons was revised so that *care* included only persons under organized medical or formally authorized and supervised care or custody. As a result of this change in definition, maternity homes were classified as non-institutional rather than institutional group quarters as in previous censuses.

The following types of other group quarters were classified as institutional: *half-way houses* (operated for correctional purposes) and *wards in general and military hospitals for patients who had no usual home elsewhere*, which included maternity, neonatal, pediatric, military, and surgical wards of hospitals, other-purpose wards of hospitals, and wards of infectious diseases. This definition was also adopted in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey. Because of the small number of persons involved, these changes should not significantly affect the comparability of data with earlier censuses. In the 1995, 1990 and 1980 censuses, 10 or more unrelated persons living together were classified as living in non-institutional group quarters. Workers' dormitories were also classified as group quarters, regardless of the number of persons sharing the dorm.

In 1970, the criteria for group quarters was six (6) or more unrelated persons. (For more information, refer to *Appendix B* of the 1990 Census of Population and Housing publication - Republic of Palau.)

HOUSEHOLD TYPE AND RELATIONSHIP

Household- A *household* constituted all persons who occupied a housing unit and prepared their food together. A household may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who shared living arrangements. The count of households or householders always equals the count of occupied housing units. (For more information, see the discussion under *Housing Units* and *Living Quarters*.)

Persons per Household - was obtained by dividing the number of persons in households by the number of

households (or householders).

Median Persons per Household - In computing median persons per household, a whole number was used as the midpoint of an interval; thus, a household with 4 persons was treated as an interval ranging from 3.5 to 4.5 persons. The median was rounded to the nearest hundredth. The measure means that one-half of the total number of households have number of persons below the median size while the other half have number of persons above it. (For more information on medians, see discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

Family household

A *family* constituted a householder and one or more persons living in the same household who were related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption. All persons in a household who were related to the householder comprised members of his/her family. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Not all households contained families since a household comprised a group of unrelated persons or one person living alone.

Families were classified by type according to the sex of the householder and the presence of relatives: Married-couple family - was a family in which the householder and his/her spouse were enumerated as members of the same household; Male Householder, No Wife Present; and Female Householder, No Husband Present.

Persons per family - was obtained by dividing the number of (related) persons in families by the total number of families (or family householder).

Relationship to Householder- Data on relationship to householder were derived from built-in responses to questionnaire item 3, which was asked of all persons in the housing unit. The type of relationship of each person were as follows:

Householder - One person in each household was designated as householder, usually he/she was the person in whose name the home was being owned, being bought or rented and who was listed as person number 1 in the census questionnaire. If there was no such person in the household, any adult household member 15 years old and over was designated as the householder.

The census classified the type of householder according to the sex of householder and the presence of relatives: *Family householder* was a householder living with one or more persons related to him/her by

blood, marriage or adoption. The householder and all persons in the household related to him/her were family members. *Non-family* householder was a householder living alone or with non-relatives only.

Spouse - was the person formally married to and living with the householder. This category also included persons who were consensually married and the spouse lived with the householder.

The number of spouses, however, was generally less than half of the number of *married persons with spouse present* since more than one married couple can live in a household, but only spouses of householders were specifically identified as *spouse*.

Child - included a son or daughter by birth, a stepchild, or adopted child of the householder, regardless of the child's age or marital status.

- Natural son/daughter - was the child of the householder by birth, regardless of age or marital status.
- Adopted son/daughter - was the child of the householder by legal adoption, regardless of age or marital status.
- Stepson/stepdaughter - was the child of the householder through marriage but not by birth. This excluded sons-in-law, daughters-in-law and foster children. If the child was legally adopted by the householder, the child was still classified as stepson or stepdaughter.

Own Child - was a never married child under 18 years that was a son or daughter by birth, a stepchild, or adopted child of the householder. In certain tabulations, *own children* were further classified as living with two parents or with one parent only. *Own children* of the householder living with two parents were, by definition, found only in married-couple families.

Related Children - in a family, including own children and all other persons under 18 years of age in the household, regardless of marital status, which were related to the householder, except the spouse of the householder. Foster children were not included since they were not related to the householder.

Other Relatives - In tabulations, these included any household member related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption, but not included specifically in

another relationship category. These included:

- *Brother/sister* - referred to natural brother/sister, stepbrother/stepsister, and brother/sister by adoption of the householder. Brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law were included in the *other relative* category.
- *Father/mother* - referred to parents by birth, stepparents, and parents by adoption of the householder. Parents-in-law were classified as *other relative*.
- *Grandchild* - referred to the grandson/granddaughter of the householder.
- *Other relatives* - included other household members not listed in the above category who were related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption, e.g. aunt/uncle, niece/nephew, grandparent, cousin, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law, etc.

Non-relatives - included the other household members and foster children who were not related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption, e.g. roomer, boarder, domestic helper, unmarried partner, etc.

When relationship was not reported for an individual, it was imputed according to the responses for age, sex, and marital status for that person while maintaining consistency with responses for other individuals in the household. (For more information on imputation, see Appendix *_*, *Accuracy of Data*.)

Unrelated Individual- An unrelated individual was: a householder living alone or with non-relatives only; a household member who was not related to the householder, or a person living in group quarters who was not an inmate of an institution.

INCOME IN 1996

Data on the individual's income received during the calendar year 1996 were obtained from answers to questionnaire items 33a through 33h and 34. Questions on money income received were asked of all persons 15 years old and over.

Total income was the algebraic sum of the amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net self-employment income from farm and non-farm business, proprietorship, or partnership; money received in customs payments; Social Security or

retirement pensions; remittances; and other income. An *earnings* was defined as the sum of wage or salary income and net self-employment income from farm and non-farm business, proprietorship, or partnership. Earnings represented the amount of income received regularly before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc.

Receipts from the following sources were not included as income: money received from the sale of property (unless the recipient was engaged in the business of selling such property); the value of income in kind from food stamps, public housing subsidies, medical care, employer contributions for persons, etc.; withdrawal of bank deposits; money borrowed; tax refunds; exchange of money between relatives living in the same household; gifts and lump-sum inheritances, insurance payments, and other types of lump-sum receipts.

Income Type in 1996

The six (6) types of money income received in 1996 as reported in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey were defined as follows:

Wage and Salary Income: This was the total money earned by a person working as an employee for a private business or branch of government. This included wages, salary, piece-rate payments, commissions, tips, bonuses, Armed Forces pay, sick leave pay, and assistantships and teaching fellowships, prior to deductions for withholding tax, Social Security, union dues, bonds, uniforms, Medicare deductions, pensions, etc.

Self-Employment Income (net) - This was the (gross receipt) money income received from farm and non-farm business, proprietorship or partnership less business or operating expenses. Gross receipts from non-farm business included all money received from goods sold and services rendered plus the value of any net inventory increase. Business expenses included the cost of merchandise purchased; expense for rent, heat, light and power used in business; annual depreciation of machinery and other business property; decrease in the value of inventory; wages and salaries paid to employees; expense allowances; business taxes; interest on business mortgages/debts; etc. Excluded as business expenses were money spent for purchase of buildings or machinery, or permanent improvements to existing property.

For farm business, gross receipts included money

income received from the sale of farm products; payments for natural crop disaster, price supports, or incentive payments for participation in government farm programs; net income from farm work; net income from recreational services provided by the farmer such as proceeds from hunting and fishing, or camping; and commodity credit loans which were not repaid in 1996. Operating expenses included the cost of feed, fertilizer, seeds, bulbs, plants, trees, sprays, insecticides, hardware, dairy supplies, tools, and livestock purchases; rental of machinery; cash wages for labor; cash rent paid; cash profits paid to the owner, interest on farm mortgages; building repairs; depreciation on farm equipment; farm taxes, etc.

-- *Customs Payments Received* - These included the total amount of money received from all sources as customs (Palauan) payments.

Social Security and Retirement Income - Social Security income included payments made by the Federal, National and State Governments under retirement, survivors and disability insurance programs to retired persons, to dependents of deceased insured workers, or to disabled workers. Retirement incomes were payments from companies, unions, Federal, National, State or other local government agencies to former employees (including members of the Armed Forces) or their survivors in the form of private pensions, government employee pensions, disability pensions, annuities from insurance and money income from Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or KEOGH plans.

Remittances - These were money received periodically from persons living outside the household. Remittances included voluntary contributions by non-resident relatives or friends, money received by parents from children not living with them, and voluntary allotment checks sent by US Armed Forces personnel to relatives not living with them. Occasional gifts or contributions are excluded.

In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations, data on remittances were shown separately for those received from: (a) Guam and CNMI, (b) Hawaii and US mainland, and other places.

Other Income - This included unemployment compensation, child support or alimony, veterans' payments, periodic income received from private charitable organization, cash scholarships, fellowships and stipends received by students, interest, dividends, net rental income from real estate, net royalty income, and estates and trust funds.

Household Income - This included the income of the householder and all other persons 15 years old and over in the household, whether related to the householder or not.

Family Income - This included the income of all members of the family 15 years old and over. Income of related persons who did not reside with the family in 1996 but were members of the family at the time of enumeration were included in *family income*. Family income did not include amounts received by members of the family in 1996 if these persons no longer resided with the family at the time of enumeration.

Income of Persons - For persons 15 years old and over, the total amounts of their income was summed.

Median Income - Whether referring to household income or family income, the median income divides the statistical universe into two equal parts, one half of the total households or families had incomes above the median and the other half had incomes below the median. In computing the median income for households and families, those with no income were also included. The median income for persons was computed based only on persons with income. The median income values for household, families and persons were computed on the basis of more detailed income intervals than are shown in the census tabulations.

Mean Income - This was obtained by dividing the total income of a particular statistical universe by the number of units in the universe. Thus, *mean household income* was obtained by dividing total household income by the total number of households. For various types of income, the *means* were based on households having that particular type of income.

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented *mean income* or *earnings* for each type of income, also *mean income* for households and families.

Care should be exercised in using and interpreting mean income values for small sub-groups of the

population as the mean is affected when extreme values are reported. It is especially susceptible to the effects of misreporting and processing errors. The median, which is not affected by extreme values, is a better measure than the mean when the population base is small. The mean, nevertheless, is shown in the tabulations even for small sub-groups because, when weighted according to the number of cases, the means are used to obtain summary measures for areas and groups other than those shown in census tabulations.

Per Capita Income - This was obtained by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population in that group. Thus, *per capita income of persons in households* was derived by dividing the total income of households by the total population of persons in households.

Percent Year Round Full Time Worker - This was the proportion of the population 15 years old and over who usually worked 35 or more hours per week for 50 to 52 weeks in 1996.

Limitation of the Data - Since questionnaire entries for income reported by respondents were only estimates or based on memory, rather than on actual records, many persons tended to forget minor or irregular sources of income. This resulted to under-reporting of income and this became even more pronounced for income sources such as those from Social Security, customs payments, interest, etc. Over-reporting of income, on the other hand, resulted when income on self-employment was reported in gross rather than in net amounts. Another common error was the reporting of identical dollar amounts in two of the six types of income items where a respondent with only one source of income assumed that the second amount should be entered to represent total income. Such instances of over-reporting had an impact on the level of *mean farm or non-farm self-employment income* and *mean income* published for the various geographical subdivisions of the area.

Income data covered money income only, and did not include non-cash income received by residents. Despite the shift to wage and salary labor, non-cash income derived from subsistence activities, as well as those received as customs payments, was still very common among Palauan households and these amounted to a significant portion during the year, if included to their total income. These included goods produced on farms and consumed by the household, fishing, livestock raised and consumed by the household, making handicrafts for own use, and other productive activities which were not for commercial

purposes. The fact that many farm families received an important part of their income in the form of *free* housing and goods produced and consumed on the farm should be taken into consideration when comparing the income of farm and non-farm residents. Non-money income such as business expense accounts, use of business transportation and facilities, or partial compensation by business for medical and educational expenses were also received by non-farm residents. In comparing income data for 1996 and earlier years, it should be noted that an increase or decrease in money income did not necessarily represent a comparable change in real income, unless adjustments for changes in prices were made.

In income tabulations for households and families, the lowest income group (e.g., *less than \$2,500*) included those that were classified as having no income in 1996. Many of these were living on income *in kind*, savings or gifts, were newly created families, or families in which the sole breadwinner had recently died or left the household. However, many of the households and families which reported *no income* probably had some money income which was not recorded in the census. Some may have been living on subsistence activity and, therefore, had received non-money income only.

Extensive computer editing procedures were instituted in the data processing operation to reduce some of the reporting errors and to improve the accuracy of the income data. These procedures improved the consistency of reported income items associated with work experience, occupation and class of worker. For example, if persons reported they were self-employed on their own farm or business, not incorporated, but had reported wage and salary earnings only, the latter amount was shifted to net self-employment income. Also, if any respondent reported total income only, the amount was generally assigned to one of the type of income items according to responses to work experience and class-of-worker questions. Another type of problem was the non-reporting of income data. Procedures were then devised to impute appropriate values with either no income or positive or negative dollar amounts for the missing entries.

Comparability - The income data collected in the 1980 and 1990 censuses were similar to the 1995 and 1990 censuses, but there were variations in the detail of the questions and the presentation of income types in the tabulations. In the 1990 census tabulations, income data were presented according to:

Wage or salary income

Net non-farm and farm self-employment income

Interest, dividend, or net rental income:

- Social Security income
- Public assistance income
- Retirement income
- Remittance income, and
- Other Income.

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey included another type of income - *Customs Payments Received* - which in earlier censuses was classified in the *Other Income* category. (For more information on comparability of income data with earlier censuses, refer to *Appendix B* of the 1990 Census of Population and Housing publication - Republic of Palau.)

INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, AND CLASS OF WORKER

Data on industry, occupation and class of worker were derived from answers to questionnaire items 26, 27 and 28, respectively. Data for these items referred to the employed person's during the census reference week. For persons who had more than one job, the data referred to the job at which they worked the most number of hours during the reference week. For unemployed persons, the data concerning work referred to the last or most recent job or business since 1992. (For more information, see discussion under *Reference Week*.)

Information or descriptions of industry and occupation provided by the respondents were converted to codes by the census editors based on the *Alphabetical Index of Industries and Occupations*.

Industry- Industry data were obtained from answers to the question: *For whom did the person work?* There were rules to follow in reporting in order to correctly determine the kind of business or industry and facilitate office coding:

A person on active duty in the US Armed Forces or an unemployed person who was on active duty in the US Armed Forces in his/her last job since 1992 was to report the branch of service in the Armed Forces, e.g. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

A person was to report the full name of the company, business or other employer. For employers without company name, such as dentist's or lawyer's office, the name of the employer was to be reported. For self-employed individual without a company name, the enumerators were instructed to simply write *self-employed* as the industry may be deduced from the occupation reported.

For employees of a government agency, they were to report the specific organization for which they worked, what the activity of the agency was and

whether it was a Federal, National, State or local government.

The exact description of the kind of business or industry must have indicated the general and specific activity of a company, business or employer at the location where the person worked.

If a company had more than one kind of business or industrial activity carried on in the same place, only the major business or activity was to be reported at that location. For many activities in different locations, only the business or activity where the person actually worked was to be reported.

When an individual worked as domestic or other private household worker in the home of another person, the industry to be reported was *private home*.

The industry classification system developed for the 1990 census, and subsequently used in 1995, consisted of 235 categories for employed persons, and classified into 13 major industry groups. Since 1940, the industrial classification was based on the Standard and Industrial Classification Manual (SIC). The 1990 census classification was developed from the 1987 SIC published by the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

The SIC was designed primarily to classify establishments by the type of industrial activity in which they were engaged. However, census data that was collected from households differ in detail and coverage from those obtained from establishment surveys. Therefore, the census classification systems, while defined in SIC terms, cannot reflect in full details all categories. There are several levels of industrial classification found in census tabulations.

The industry category, *Public Administration*, was limited to regular government functions such as legislative, judicial, administrative, and regulatory activities of governments. Other government organizations such as schools, hospitals, liquor stores, and bus lines were classified by industry according to the activity in which they were engaged.

Occupation- *Occupation* described clearly and specifically the kind of work a person did. In some cases, it revealed what a person was called when he/she performed a particular kind of work.

The occupation of a person was ascertained by asking

the question: *What kind of work was the person doing?* The answer required a sufficient and detailed description of the kind of work so as to permit office coding. The occupational classifications system developed for the 1990 census, and also used in 1995, consisted of 500 specific occupational categories for employed persons arranged into 6 summary and 13 major occupational groups. This classification was developed to be consistent with the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Manual: 1980, published by the Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented data on several levels of occupational details.

Some occupation groups are related closely to certain industries. Operators of transport equipment, farm operators and workers, and private household workers accounted for large proportions of their respective industries of transportation, agriculture, and private households. However, the industry categories included persons in other occupations. For example, persons employed in agriculture included truck drivers, as well as bookkeepers; persons employed in the transportation industry included mechanics, freight handlers, as well as payroll clerks; and persons employed in private household industry included occupations such as chauffeur, gardener, as well as secretary.

Class of Worker- The *class of worker* referred to the same job as the respondent's industry and occupation. Built-in responses to the class of worker were listed in the questionnaire, which were as follows:

Private wage and salary worker - This category was for employees of a private company or business or of an individual who worked for wages, salary, commission, tips, payment in kind, or piece-rate payment. This also included employees of churches, unions, YMCAs, political parties, professional associations, non-profit hospitals and other non-government organizations.

Government worker - This included employees of National and State Government agencies, including employees of public schools, hospitals, government-owned electric power utilities, etc., regardless of their industry classification.

Self-employed worker - This included persons who worked for profit or fees in their own unincorporated business, professional practice or farm, shop, etc. Persons who owned all or most of

the stock in a private corporation were also classified in this category. Managers or other executives hired to manage a business or farm, salesperson working for commissions, or officers in corporation were not included in this category, but classified as *private wage and salary workers*.

Working without pay - This referred to persons who worked without pay in a business or farm operated by a relative. Room, board and cash allowance was not counted as pay for these family members.

Occasionally, respondents provided industry, occupation, or class of worker description, which were not sufficiently specific for precise classification or did not report on these items at all. Some of these cases were corrected through the field editing process and coding operation. In coding, certain types of incomplete entries were corrected using the *Alphabetical Index of Industries and Occupations*. In certain situations, it was possible to assign an industry code based on the occupation reported.

Following the coding operation, there was the computer edit and an allocation process. The edit determined first whether a respondent was in the universe that required an industry and occupation code. The codes for industry, occupation and class of worker were checked to ensure they were valid and consistent with each other. Invalid and inconsistent codes were either blanked or corrected. If one or more of the three codes were blank after the edit, a code was assigned from a person having similar characteristics based on items such as age, sex, education, residence and weeks worked. If all the labor force and income data were also blank, all these economic items were assigned from one other person who provided all the necessary data.

Comparability - Comparability of industry and occupation data was affected by a number of factors, primarily the changes or revisions to the classification systems used. For both the industry and occupation classification systems, the basic structures were generally the same from 1940 to 1970, but changes in the individual categories limited comparability of the data from one census to another. These changes were needed because of the *birth* of new industries and occupations, as well as the *death* of others, the growth and decline of existing industries and occupations, and the desire of analysts and users for more detailed presentation of data. Another cause of incomparability was the possible movement of a segment of a category to a different category in the next census. Changes in the nature of jobs and respondent terminology and the refinement of category composition made these movements necessary.

Other factors that affected data comparability included the universe to which the data referred (in 1970, the age cutoff for labor force was changed from 14 years to 16 years), how the industry and occupation questions were worded in the questionnaire, improvements in the coding procedures, and how the *not reported* cases were handled. Prior to 1970, they were placed in the residual categories, *Industry not reported* and *Occupation not reported*. In 1970, an allocation process was introduced that assigned these cases to major groups. In 1990 and 1980, the *Not reported* cases were assigned to individual categories.

The 1990 census introduced an additional class of worker category, *private not-for-profit workers*, which was a subset of the 1980 category, *employee of private employer*. The 1995 category, *private wage and salary worker* included those working for profit and not-for-profit businesses.

Also, the 1990 category, *private not-for-profit*, included employees of foreign governments, the United Nations, etc., which were classified as *U.S. and other government worker* in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, and as *Federal Government worker* in the 1980 and 1970 censuses.

Comparability between statistics on industry and occupation from the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, and earlier censuses, and those from other sources is affected by the factors described in the section *Employment Status*. Industry data from population censuses cover all industries and all types of workers, whereas, data from establishment surveys often excluded private household workers, government workers, and the self-employed.

Also, the responses provided by household respondents may have differed in detail and nature from those obtained from establishments. (For more information on comparability, refer to *Appendix B* of the 1990 Census of Population and Housing publication - Republic of Palau.)

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

Data on language spoken at home were derived from the answers to questionnaire items 16a through 16c. These were intended to measure the extent to which languages other than Palauan were being spoken and how frequently they were spoken relative to Palauan. The questions were asked of all persons.

Language Spoken at Home - Persons were asked in questionnaire item 16a whether they currently spoke only Palauan at home. Persons who answered *Yes* were not asked the remainder of the language questions.

Those persons who reported speaking a language other than Palauan were asked in question item 16b to report the language spoken at home. If more than one language was spoken, the person was asked which language was spoken most often. If it could not be determined which was spoken most often, the first language the person learned to speak was recorded. The response was recorded by the enumerator and later on coded using a detailed list of languages that distinguished more than 30 languages or language groups.

The imputation procedure for persons who failed to report language spoken at home involved attributing the language of other household members to a person with no entry. If that was not possible, the language of a person of similar ethnic origin and other demographic characteristics was imputed.

Comparability - In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, persons who reported in question item 16b that they spoke a language other than Palauan at home were asked to report in item 16c if this language was spoken more frequently than Palauan. Questionnaire items were different in the 1980 and 1990 censuses as the respondents were asked to report their proficiency in writing and speaking in any language, and whether a non-English language spoken at home was spoken more frequently than English.

Data on language spoken at home were tabulated for persons 5 years old and over only. Since the responses to questionnaire item 16b were expected to be numerous, only the most common languages were presented in details in the tabulations: Palauan, English, Carolinian, Pilipino, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese/Taiwanese. Languages having lesser usage were grouped into *Other Micronesian*, *Asian*, and *Other language*, where appropriate. The Pilipino language, though synonymous to Tagalog, also included other Philippine languages spoken by residents.

LEGAL RESIDENCE

Data on the *legal residence* were obtained from responses to questionnaire item 17, which was asked of persons 18 years old and over. The *legal residence* was the place where the person had registered to vote. The legal residence of a person may be different from his usual residence. However, for Palauan citizens, the legal residence may either be in the same state in Palau as their usual residence, or it could be in a different state.

For persons registered in Palau, the hamlet in Koror or the state or island was reported. For persons registered in the U.S., the name of the State was also reported. Those registered in FSM or the Marshall Islands reported the lowest level of geography. Persons registered in a foreign country including U.S. territory or commonwealth reported only the name of the country.

Comparability - For the first time in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, question on legal residence of a person was asked. The census tabulations, however, limited the geographic presentation to the 16 states in Palau, Guam, CNMI, USA, FSM, Philippines, Japan, Korea, and China/Taiwan. Other countries not classified in any of these were grouped under *Asia* and *Others*, where appropriate.

Where tabulations are shown for households and families, the data referred to the *legal residence* of the householders.

MARITAL STATUS

The data on marital status were derived from answers to questionnaire item 6 that was asked of all persons. The marital status classification referred to the status at the time of enumeration. Data for marital status, however, were tabulated for persons 15 years old and over only.

All persons were asked whether they were *now married*, *consensually married*, *widowed*, *divorced*, *separated* or *never married*. Couples who lived together were allowed to report the marital status they considered the most appropriate.

Never Married - included all persons who had never been married, including persons whose only marriage(s) was annulled.

Now Married, Except Separated - included persons whose current marriage had not ended through widowhood, divorce, or separation (regardless of previous marital history). The category also included couples who live together or person in common-law marriages, if they considered this category the most appropriate. In certain tabulations, currently married persons were further classified as *spouse present* or *spouse absent*. In selected tabulations, data for married and separated persons were reorganized and combined with information on the presence of the spouse in the same household.

Consensually Married - included persons living in a marital union without a civil or religious matrimonial contract and were classified as *now married*. They were reported separately as *consensually married*. The category also included couples who lived together if they considered this category the appropriate.

Separated - included persons legally separated or otherwise absent from their spouses because of marital discord. Included were person who had been deserted or who had parted because they no longer wanted to live together but had not obtained a divorce.

Widowed - included widows and widowers who had not remarried.

Divorced - included persons who were legally divorced and who not remarried.

Now Married - included all persons whose current marriage has not ended by widowhood or divorce. This category included persons defined above as *separated*.

Comparability - The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey marital status definitions were the same as those used in the 1990 census, and these reflected the 1980 census with the exception of the term *never married* which replaced the 1980 term *single* in tabulations. A general marital status question has been asked in every US census since 1980.

PLACE OF BIRTH AND PARENTS' PLACE OF BIRTH

The data on place of birth were derived from answer to questionnaire item 7. Mother's place of birth and father's place of birth were derived from answers to questionnaire items 11a and 11b, respectively. Each place of birth question asked for the name of state in Palau, the U.S. State, or the foreign country where the person or the person's parents were born according to current international boundaries. Since numerous changes in boundaries of foreign countries have occurred in the last century, some persons may have reported their place of birth or their parents' place of birth in terms of boundaries that existed at the time of the birth or emigration, or in accordance with their own national preference.

Persons not reporting place of birth were assigned the birthplace of another family member or were allocated the response of another person or parent with similar characteristics. Persons allocated as born outside the area of current residence were not allocated a specific foreign country of birth, but were classified as *Other* which meant that country or area was not specified. The places of birth shown in the report were selected base on the number of respondents who chose to report

that area or country of birth.

Comparability - Similar data were shown in tabulations for the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, as for the 1980 and 1990 censuses. However, nonresponse was not allocated. Instead, such persons were shown separately in the tables under *Elsewhere*.

Where tabulations are shown for households and families, the data referred to the *place of birth* of householders.

PLACE OF WORK

Data on *Place of Work* were obtained from answers to questionnaire item 20, which was asked of persons 15 years old and over who indicated that they worked full time or part time, whether also did subsistence activity or not, during the census reference week.

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented data on *Place of Work* for civilian workers 16 years old and over, which referred to employed persons *at work* during the census reference week. (For more information on *employed*, refer to discussion under *Employment Status*.)

POVERTY STATUS IN 1996

The data on poverty status were derived from answers to the same questions as the income data, questionnaire items 20 and 25. (For more information, see the discussion under *Income in 1996*.)

Poverty statistics presented in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey and various census publications were based on a definition originated by the Social Security Administration in 1964 and subsequently modified by Federal inter-agency committees in 1969 and 1980 and prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget in Directive 14 as the standard to be used by Federal agencies for statistical purposes.

At the core of this definition was the 1961 economy food plan, the least costly of four nutritionally adequate food plans designed by the Department of Agriculture. It was determined from the Agriculture Department's 1955 survey of food consumption that families of three or more persons spend approximately one-third of their income on food; hence, the poverty level for these families was set at three times the cost of the economy food plan.

For smaller families and persons living alone, the cost of the economy food plan was multiplied by factors that were slightly higher to compensate for the relatively

larger fixed expenses for these smaller households.

The income cutoffs used by the US Census Bureau to determine the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals included a set of 48 thresholds arranged in a two-dimensional matrix consisting of family size (from 1 person to 9 or more persons) cross-classified by presence and number of family members under 18 years old (from no children present to 8 or more children present). Unrelated individuals and two-person families were further differentiated by age of householder (under 65 years old and 65 years old and over).

The total income of each family or unrelated individual in the sample was tested against the appropriate poverty threshold to determine the poverty status of that family or unrelated individual. If the total income was less than the corresponding cutoff, the family or unrelated individual was classified as *below the poverty level*. The number of persons below the poverty level was the sum of the number of persons in families with incomes below the poverty level and the number of unrelated individuals with incomes below the poverty level.

Poverty Thresholds in 1996, by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years

							Related
children under 18 years							
Size of family unit							
				Eight			
				None	One	Two	
Four	Five	Six	Seven	or more		Three	
One person (unrelated)...							
Under 65 years.....			8, 163				
65 years and over.....			7, 525				
Two persons.....							
Hholder under 65 years.			10, 507	10, 815			
Hholder 65 years & over			9, 484	10, 774			
Three persons.....			12, 273	12, 629	12, 641		
Four persons.....			16, 183	16, 448	15, 911	15, 967	
Five persons.....			19, 516	19, 800	19, 194	18, 725	
18, 438							
Six persons.....			22, 447	22, 536	22, 072	21, 627	
20, 965 20, 573							
Seven persons.....			25, 828	25, 990	25, 434	25, 046	
24, 324 23, 482 22, 558							
Eight persons.....			28, 887	29, 142	28, 617	28, 158	
27, 506 26, 678 25, 816 25, 597							
Nine persons or more....			34, 749	34, 917	34, 453	34, 063	
33, 423 32, 542 31, 746 31, 548 30, 333							

The poverty thresholds are revised annually to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index. The average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$12,674 in 1989. Poverty thresholds were applied on a national basis for the U.S. and were not adjusted for regional, state or local variations in the cost of living. Therefore, the thresholds used for Palau were the same as those used in the United States. For a detailed discussion of the poverty definition, see U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, *Series P-60, No.171, Poverty in the United States: 1988 and 1989*.

Persons for Whom Poverty Status was Determined - Poverty status was determined for all persons except institutionalized persons, persons in military group

quarters and in college dormitories. These groups were also excluded from the denominator when calculating poverty rates.

Specified Poverty Levels - Since the poverty levels currently used by the Federal Government do not meet all the needs of data users, some of the data were presented for alternate levels. These specified poverty levels were obtained by multiplying the income cutoffs at the poverty level by the appropriate factor. For example, the average income cutoff at 125 percent of poverty level was \$15,843 (\$12,674 x 1.25) in 1989 for a family of four persons.

Weighted Average Thresholds at the Poverty Level:

The average thresholds shown in the first column of Table A were weighted by the presence and number of children. For example, the weighted average threshold for a given family size was obtained by multiplying the threshold for each presence and number of children category within the given family size by the number of families in that category. These products were then aggregated across the entire range of presence and number of children categories, and the aggregate was divided by the total number of families in the group to yield the weighted average threshold at the poverty level for that family size.

Since the basic thresholds used to determine the poverty status of families and unrelated individuals were applied to all families and unrelated individuals, the weighted average poverty thresholds were derived using all families and unrelated individuals rather than just those classified as being *below the poverty level*.

Comparability - The poverty definition used in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey was the same as that used in the 1980 and 1990 censuses. This definition differed slightly from that used in the 1970 census. Three technical modifications were made to the definition used in the 1970 census as described below:

The separate thresholds for families with a female householder with no husband present and all other families were eliminated. For the 1980 and 1990 censuses, the weighted average of the poverty thresholds for these two types of families was applied to all types of families, regardless of the sex of the householder.

Farm families and farm unrelated individuals no longer had a set of poverty thresholds that were lower than the thresholds applied to nonfarm families and unrelated individuals. The farm thresholds were 85 percent of the corresponding levels for nonfarm families in the 1970 census. The same thresholds were applied to all families and unrelated individuals regardless of residence in 1980 and 1990.

The thresholds by size of family were extended from 7 or more persons in 1970 to 9 or more persons in 1980 and 1990.

The population covered in the poverty statistics derived from the 1980 and 1990 censuses was essentially the same as in the 1970 census. The only difference was that in 1980 and 1990, unrelated individuals under 15 years old were excluded from the poverty universe, while in 1970, only those under 14 years old were excluded. The poverty data from the 1960 census excluded all persons in group-quarters and included all unrelated individuals regardless of age. It was unlikely that these differences in population coverage would have had

significant impact when comparing the poverty data for persons since the 1960 censuses.

REASON FOR MIGRATION

Data on reason for migration were derived from built-in responses to questionnaire item 10, which was asked of persons born outside Palau. The question, *Why did this person come to Palau the first time?* was asked of persons who indicated in the question on citizenship (item 8) that they were not born in Palau. If the person gave more than one reason, the main reason was considered. The possible reasons were as follows:

Employment - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily for employment, even if he/she had other reasons for coming;

Spouse of employed person - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily because he/she was a spouse of a person who came either for employment or was already employed in Palau;

Dependent of employed person - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily because he/she was the dependent (but not the spouse) of a person who came either for employment or was already employed in Palau;

Family member of employed person - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily because he/she was a family member (other than a spouse or a direct dependent) of a person who was either employed or who came for employment in Palau;

Student - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily to be a student at either an elementary, high school or college;

Missionary - if a person came primarily for missionary activities;

Medical reasons - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily for medical reasons even if he/she had other reasons for coming;

Visiting or vacation - if a person came to Palau for the first time primarily to visit or for vacation, even if the person eventually stayed or had other reasons for coming;

Others - if the person had some other reasons for coming to Palau for the first time other than those listed above, he/she was asked to state the specific reason.

Comparability - The question on reason for migration to Palau was asked for the first time in the 1995 Census of

Population and Housing, and was used again in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey.

REFERENCE WEEK

The data on labor force status was related to the reference week; that is, the calendar week preceding the data on which the respondents were interviewed by enumerators. This week was not the same for all respondents since the enumeration was not completed in one week. The occurrence of holidays during the enumeration period could affect the data on actual hours worked during the reference week, but probably had no effect on overall measurement of employment status.

Comparability - The reference weeks for the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey included that time between the third week of February 1997 and the third week of June 1997 during which time enumerators worked in the field. Some workers may have observed holidays such as Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day or other local holidays.

The differing occurrence of the various holidays could affect the comparability of the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey data and those from the 1990 and 1980 censuses on *actual hours worked* for some areas if the respective weeks containing holidays were the reference weeks for a significant number of persons. The holidays probably did not affect the overall measurement of employment status since this information was based on work activity during the entire reference week.

RELIGION

Data on religion were derived from answers to questionnaire item 4a, which was asked of all persons.

This item had an open-ended question and the enumerators recorded the responses. These responses were later on coded using a list of more than 10 identified religions. Persons who said they had no religion were classified into the *None* category, while those who refused to answer the question were classified into the *Refused* category.

Comparability - The question on religion was asked for the first time in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, and data were shown for all persons, regardless of age.

RESIDENCE IN 1992

In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, data on residence in 1992 were derived from answers to

questionnaire items 14a and 14b, which were asked of persons born before 1992. For persons who reported in item 14a that they lived in a different house on February 15, 1992 other than their current residence on the date of enumeration, question item 14 b asked for hamlet or State in Palau, U.S. state or territory or foreign country where those persons were living on that date. Residence in 1992 was used in conjunction with location of current residence to determine the extent of residential mobility of the population and the resulting redistribution of the population among the states and between the states and the U.S. states and other foreign countries.

When no information on residence in 1992 was reported for a person, information for other family members, if available, was used to assign a location of residence in 1992. All cases of nonresponse or in-complete response that were not assigned a previous residence based on information from other family members were allocated the previous residence of another person with similar characteristics who provided complete information.

The tabulation category *Same House* included all persons 5 years old and over who did not move during the 5 years, as well as those who had moved but by 1997 had returned to their 1992 residence. The category *Different House in Palau* included persons who lived in Palau in 1992 but in a different house or apartment from the one they occupied on February 15, 1997. These movers were then further subdivided according to the type of move.

In most tabulation, persons who moved within Palau were divided into those moving within the same state and those moving from a different state. Movers from outside Palau were divided into groups according to their 1992 residence: Guam, CNMI, U.S., FSM, Asia and Others. The Asia group were further subdivided into 4 countries: Philippines, Japan, Korea, and China/Taiwan; with the remaining difference included in *Asia*. The last group *Others* included persons who were residing in a foreign country, other than those earlier listed.

The number of persons who were living in a different house in 1992 was somewhat less than the total number of moves during the five-year period. Some persons in the same house at the two dates had moved during the five-year period but by the time of the census had returned to their 1992 residence. Other persons who were living in a different house had made one or more intermediate moves. For similar reasons, the number of persons living on a different island may be understated.

Comparability - The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey question reported data similar to

that in the 1990 census. Similar questions were also asked in the 1980 and 1990 censuses, but previous residence was not allocated for nonresponse in 1980. These persons were shown in the category *residence in 1975 not reported*. In the 1970 census, the migration questions did not ask for residence in a specific village or island within the area.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND LABOR FORCE STATUS

Tabulation of data on enrollment, educational attainment, and labor force status for the population 16 to 19 years old allowed for the calculation of the proportion of the age group who were not enrolled in school and not high school graduates, or *dropouts*. Definitions of the three topics and descriptions of the census items from which they were derived were presented in *Educational Attainment, Employment Status and School Enrollment and Type of School*. The published tabulations included both the civilian and Armed Forces populations.

Comparability - The tabulation of school enrollment by labor force status in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey was similar to that published in the 1980 and 1990 census reports. The 1980 census tabulation included a single data line for Armed Forces; however, enrollment, educational attainment and labor force status data were shown for the civilian population only. In 1970, tabulation was included for 16 to 21 year old males not attending school.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND TYPE OF SCHOOL

Data on school enrollment were derived from answers to questionnaire item 12, which was asked of all persons. Persons were classified as enrolled in school if they reported attending a *regular* public or private school or college at any time between February 15, 1997 and the time of enumeration. The question included instructions to *include only nursery school, kindergarten, elementary school, and schooling that would lead to a high school diploma or a college degree* as regular school.

Enumerators were instructed that enrollment in a trade or business school, company training, or tutoring were not to be included unless the course would be accepted for credit at a regular elementary school, high school, or college. Persons who did not answer the enrollment question were considered as not enrolled.

Public and Private School - Persons who attended school in the reference period indicated whether they were enrolled in either *public school, public college* or *private school, private college*. A *public* school was defined as any school or college controlled and supported by the state, national or Federal Government. Schools

supported and controlled primarily by religious organizations or other private groups were defined as *private*.

Level of School in Which Enrolled - Persons who were enrolled in school were classified as enrolled in *preprimary school, elementary, high school* or *college* according to their response to question item 13 (years of school completed or highest degree received). Persons who were enrolled and reported completing nursery school or less were classified as enrolled in *preprimary school*, which included kindergarten. Similarly, enrolled persons who had completed at least kindergarten, but not high school, were classified as enrolled in *elementary* or *high school*. Enrolled persons who reported completing high school or some college or having received a post-secondary degree were classified as enrolled in *college*. Enrolled persons who reported completing the twelfth grade but receiving No Diploma were classified as enrolled in *high school*. (For more information on level of school, see discussion on *Educational Attainment*.)

Comparability - The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey questions on school enrollment and highest level of school completed mirrored that of the 1990 census. School enrollment questions have been included in the decennial census since 1930; grade attended was first asked in 1950; and type of school was first asked in 1970. In 1930, the enrollment question referred to attendance since September 1. In 1940, the reference was to attendance in the month preceding the census, and in the 1950 and subsequent censuses, the question referred to attendance in the two months preceding the census date.

In past years, instructions on the types of schools to include have changed. In the 1950 instructions, the term *regular school* was introduced, and it was defined as schooling which *advances a person towards an elementary or high school diploma or a college, university or professional school degree*. Vocational, trade or business schools were excluded unless they were graded and considered part of a regular school system. On-the-job training was excluded, as were nursery school and kindergarten. Instruction by correspondence was excluded unless it was given by a regular school and counted towards promotion.

In 1960, the question used the term *regular school* or *college* and a similar, though expanded, definition of regular was included in the instructions, which continued to exclude nursery school, but included kindergarten. In the 1970 census, the questionnaire used the phrase *regular school or college* and included instructions to count nursery school, kindergarten, and schooling which leads to an elementary school certificate, high school diploma, or college degree.

The age range for which enrollment data have been obtained and published has varied over the censuses. Information on enrollment was recorded for persons 5 to 24 years old in 1940; for persons 5 to 29 years old in 1950; for persons aged 5 to 34 years in 1960; and for those 3 years old and over since 1970. Most of the published enrollment figures referred to persons 5 to 24 years in 1940, 5 to 29 years in 1950, 5 to 34 years in 1960, 3 to 34 years in 1970, and 3 years old and over in 1980 and 1990. This growth in age group whose enrollment was reported reflects increased interest in the number of children in preprimary schools and in the number of older persons attending colleges and universities.

In the 1950 and subsequent censuses, college students were enumerated where they lived while attending college, whereas in earlier censuses, they generally were enumerated at their parental homes. This change should not affect the comparability of national figures on college enrollment since 1940, however it may affect the comparability over time of enrollment figures at sub-national levels.

Type of school was first introduced in the 1970 census. The type of school was incorporated into the *yes* response categories for the enrollment question. The types identified were *public*, *parochial* and *other private*. In the 1980 census, *private*, *church related* and *private, not church related* replaced *parochial* and *other private*. Grade of enrollment was first available in the 1950 census, where it was obtained from responses to the question on highest grade of school completed. Enumerators were instructed that *for a person still in school, the last grade completed will be the grade preceding the one in which he/she was now enrolled*. From 1960 to 1980, grade of enrollment was obtained from the highest grade attended in the two-part question used to measure educational attainment. The form of the question from which level of enrollment was derived in the 1990 census most closely corresponds to the question used in 1950. While data from prior censuses can be aggregated to provide levels of enrollment comparable to the 1995 and 1990 censuses, the 1995 and 1990 census data cannot be disaggregated to show single grade of enrollment as in previous censuses.

Data on school enrollment were also collected and published by other Federal and local government agencies. Where these data were obtained from administrative records of school systems and institutions of higher learning, they were only roughly comparable with data from population censuses and household surveys because of differences in definitions and concepts, subject matter covered, time references

and enumeration methods. At the state level, the difference between the location of the institution and the residence of the student may affect the comparability of census and administrative data. Differences between the boundaries of school districts and census geographic units also may affect these comparisons.

SEX

The data on sex were derived from answers to questionnaire item 2, which was asked of all persons. For most cases in which sex was not reported, it was determined by the appropriate entry from the person's given name and household relationship. Otherwise, sex was imputed according to the relationship to the householder and the age and marital status of the person.

Sex Ratio - A measure derived by dividing the total number of males by the total number of females and multiplying by 100.

Comparability - A question on the sex of individuals, similar to that asked in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey has been asked of the total population in every census.

MILITARY STATUS

Data on military status were derived from answers to questionnaire item 19, which was asked of all persons 15 years old and over. For census tabulations, data on military status were shown for persons 16 years old and over who were: on active duty (at the time of enumeration) in the US Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or the Coast Guard; on active duty in the past (but not at the time of enumeration); Reserves or National Guard only; and not in active duty.

Limitation of the Data - There may be a tendency for the following kinds of persons to report erroneously that they served on active duty in the Armed Forces: (a) persons who served in the National Guard or military Reserves but were never called to active duty; (b) civilian employees or volunteers for the USO, Red Cross, or the Department of Defense or its predecessor Departments (War and Navy); and employees of the Merchant Marine or Public Health Service.

Comparability - Since census data on military status were based on self-reported responses, they may differ from data from other sources such as administrative records of the Department of Defense.

The wording of the question on military status for the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey was

limited to whether persons were now on active duty; had been on active duty in the past, but not now; had served in the Reserves or National Guard; or had not been on active duty, representing only one part of a two part question in 1990.

In the 1990 census, the question was expanded from the veteran/not veteran question in 1980 to include questions on current active duty status and service in the military Reserves and the National Guard. The expansion was intended to clarify the appropriate response for persons in the Armed Forces and for persons who served in the National Guard or military Reserve units only. For the first time in a census, service during World War II as a Merchant Marine Seaman was considered active-duty military service and persons with such service were counted as veterans. An additional period of military service, *September 1980 or later*, was added in 1990. As in 1970 and 1980, persons reporting more than one period of service were shown in the most recent wartime period of service category. The question on *Years of Military Service* was new for the 1990 census.

USUAL RESIDENCE

Data on *usual residence* were derived from entries in questionnaire items E, F and G, which were completed by the census enumerators. *Usual residence* was the place where a person lived and slept most of the time. In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, the following rules applied to the enumeration of persons in their *usual residence*:

- Family members, housemates, roommates, foster children, boarders, roomers and live-in employees were counted in their usual residence; that is, the place where they lived and slept most of the time;
- Persons temporarily away on a business trip or vacation, in general hospital or for customs/traditional purposes were counted in their usual residence;
- High school and college students were counted in the place where they lived while attending school;
- Children below college level but away in boarding schools were counted in the usual residence of their household;
- Persons in the Armed Forces were counted in the place where they lived;
- Newborn babies still in the hospital were counted in the usual residence of their parent/s;
- Persons were counted in the place where they stayed most of the week while working even if they had a

home elsewhere; and

Persons who had no usual residence were counted on the place where they were staying on Survey day.

Excluded from the count of persons in the usual residence were the following:

Persons who usually lived somewhere else;

- Persons who were away in an institution, such as prison, mental hospital, or nursing home;
- College students who lived somewhere else while attending school;
- Persons in the Armed Forces who lived somewhere else; and

Persons who stayed somewhere else most of the time while working.

Comparability - In every census, data on *usual residence* of persons are made available in specified geographic disaggregations. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations on *usual residence* presented data on the state level and by hamlet for the state of Koror. Where tabulations were shown for households and families, the data referred to the *usual residence* of the householders.

WORK STATUS IN 1996

Data on work status in 1996 were derived from answers to questionnaire items 32a through 32c, which were asked of persons 15 years old and over. Census tabulations, however, showed data for Work Status in 1996 for persons 16 years old and over. Persons 16 years old and over who worked one or more weeks according to the criteria described below were classified as *Worked in 1996*. All other persons 16 years old and over were classified as *Did not work in 1996*.

Weeks Worked in 1996 - Data on *Weeks Worked in 1996* were derived from responses to questionnaire item 32b, which was asked of persons who indicated in question item 32a that they worked in 1996.

The data pertain to the number of weeks in 1996 during which a person did any work for pay or profit (including paid vacation and paid sick leave) or worked without pay on a family farm or in a family business. Weeks of active service in the Armed Forces were also included.

Usual Hours Worked per Week Worked in 1996 - The data on usual hours worked per week worked in 1996 were derived from answers to questionnaire item 32c. This question was asked of persons who indicated that

they worked in 1996.

The data pertain to the number of hours a person usually worked during the weeks worked in 1996. The respondent was to report the number of hours worked per week in the majority of the weeks he/she worked in 1996. If the hours worked per week varied considerably during 1996, the respondent was to report an approximate average of the hours worked per week. The statistics on usual hours worked per week in 1996 were not necessarily related to the data on actual hours worked during the census reference week (question item 20). Persons 16 years old and over who reported that they usually worked 35 or more hours each week during the weeks they worked were classified as *Usually worked full time*; persons who reported that they usually worked 1 to 34 hours were classified as *Usually worked part time*.

Year-Round Full-Time Workers - All persons 16 years old and over who usually worked 35 hours or more per week for 50 to 52 weeks in 1996.

Number of Workers in Family in 1996 - The term *worker* as used for these data was defined based on the criteria for Work Status in 1996.

Limitation of the Data - It was probable that the number of persons who worked in 1996 and the number of weeks worked were understated since some respondents tended to forget intermittent or short periods of employment or to exclude weeks worked without pay. They may also be a tendency for persons to exclude weeks of paid vacation among their weeks worked; one result may be that the census figures may understate the number of persons who worked *50 to 52 weeks*.

Comparability - Data on weeks worked collected in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey were comparable with data from the 1990, 1980, 1970, and 1960 censuses, but may not be entirely comparable with data from the 1940 and 1950 censuses. Since the 1960 census, two separate questions have been used to obtain this information. The first identified persons with any work experience during the year and, thus, indicated those persons for whom the questions on number of weeks work applied. In 1940 and 1950, however, the questionnaires contained only a single question on number of weeks worked. In 1970, persons responded to the question on weeks worked by indicating one of six-weeks worked intervals. In the 1995, 1990 and 1980 censuses, persons were asked to report the specific number of weeks they worked.

YEAR OF ENTRY

Data on year of entry were derived from answers to questionnaire item 9, which was asked of persons who were born outside Palau. The question, *In what month and year did this person come to Palau to stay?* was asked of persons who indicated on the question on citizenship (item 8) that they were not born in Palau. For persons who have entered Palau more than once, the latest month and year they came to stay was considered as the date of entry. (For more information, see the discussion on *Citizenship*.)

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey questions, tabulations and census data products about citizenship and year of entry included no reference to immigration. All persons who were born and resided outside Palau before becoming residents of Palau had a *date of entry*. Some of these persons were US citizens by birth (e.g. persons born abroad of American parents). To avoid any possible confusion concerning the date of entry of persons who were U.S. citizens by birth, the term *year of entry* was used in this report instead of the term *year of immigration*.

Limitation of the Data - The census questions on nativity, citizenship, and year of entry were not designed to measure the degree of permanence of residence in Palau. The phrase *to stay* was used to obtain the year in which the person became a resident of Palau. Although the respondent was directed to indicate the year he/she entered the country *to stay*, it was difficult to ensure that respondents interpreted the phrase correctly.

Comparability - A question on *year of entry* was asked in the 1970, 1980 and 1990 censuses. In 1980, the question on year of entry included six arrival time intervals. The number of arrival intervals was expanded to ten in 1990. In 1980, the question on year of entry was asked only of the foreign-born population. In 1990, all persons not born in Palau were to answer the question on year of entry. In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, persons reported the month and year of entry into Palau.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Living Quarters- Living quarters were classified as housing units. Usually, living quarters were in structures intended for residential use (e.g. one-family home, apartment house, hotel or motel, boarding house, or mobile home). Living quarters may also be in structures intended for nonresidential use (for example, the rooms in a warehouse where a guard lives), as well as in places such as boats, tents, vans, shelters for the homeless, and dormitories.

Housing Units - A housing unit was a house, an apartment, a mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters were those in which the occupants live and eat separately from any other persons in the building and which had direct access from outside the building or through a common hall.

The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who shared living arrangements. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access were applied to the intended occupants whenever possible. If that information cannot be obtained, the criteria were applied to the previous occupants. Both occupied and vacant housing units were included in the housing unit inventory, except that recreational vehicles, boats, vans, tents and the like were included only if they were occupied as someone's usual place of residence. Vacant mobile homes were included provided they were intended for occupancy on the site where they stand. Vacant mobile homes on dealers' sales lots or in storage yards were excluded from the housing inventory.

If the living quarters contained 9 or more persons unrelated to the householder or person in charge (a total of 10 unrelated persons), they were classified as *group quarters*. If the living quarters contained 8 or fewer persons unrelated to the householder or person in charge, they were classified as *housing units*.

Occupied Housing Units - A housing unit was classified as *occupied* if it was the usual place of residence of the person or group of persons living in it at the time of enumeration, or if the occupants were only temporarily absent; that is, away on vacation or business. If all the persons staying in the unit at the time of the census had their usual place of residence elsewhere, the unit was classified as *vacant*. A household included all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. By definition, the count of occupied housing units for the tabulations was the same as the count of households or householders.

Vacant Housing Units - A housing unit was vacant if no one was living in it at the time of enumeration, unless its occupants were only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by persons who had a usual residence elsewhere were also classified as vacant. (For more information, see discussion under *Usual Home Elsewhere*.)

New units not yet occupied were classified as vacant housing units if construction had reached a point where all exterior windows and doors were installed and final usable floors were in place. Vacant units were excluded

if they were open to the elements; that is, the roof, walls, windows, and/or doors no longer protected the interior from the elements, or if positive evidence existed (such as a sign on the house or in the block) that the unit was condemned or was to be demolished. Also excluded were quarters being used entirely for non-residential purposes, such as a store or an office, or quarters used for the storage of business supplies or inventory, machinery, or agricultural products.

Hotels, Motels, Rooming Houses, etc. - Occupied rooms or suites of rooms in hotels, motels, and similar places were classified as housing units only when occupied by permanent residents; that is, persons who considered the hotel s their usual place of residence or had no usual place of residence elsewhere. Vacant rooms or suites of rooms were classified as housing units only in those hotels, motels, and similar places in which 75 percent or more of the accommodations were occupied by permanent residents.

If any of the occupants in a rooming or boarding house lived and ate separately from others in the building and had direct access from outside, their quarters were classified as separate housing units.

Staff Living Quarters - The living quarters occupied by staff personnel within any group quarters were separate housing units if they satisfied the housing unit criteria of separateness and direct access; otherwise, they were considered *group quarters*.

Comparability - The first Census of Housing in 1940 established the *dwelling unit* concept. Although the term became *housing unit* and the definition has been modified slightly in succeeding censuses; the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey definition for housing unit was the same as that used for the 1990 and 1980 censuses.

AIR CONDITIONING

Data on air conditioning were obtained from questionnaire item H27, which was asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Air conditioning was defined as the cooling of air by a refrigeration unit. It did not include evaporative coolers, fans, or blowers, which were not connected to a refrigeration unit; however, it did include heat pumps. A central system was an installation that air-conditioned a number of rooms. In an apartment building, each apartment may have its own central system, or there may be several systems, each providing central air conditioning for a group of apartments. A central system with individual room controls was a *central air conditioning system*. A *room unit* was an individual air-conditioner that was installed in a window or an outside wall and was generally intended to cool one room, although it may

sometimes be used to cool more than one room.

Comparability - Data on air-conditioning were collected for the first time in 1980 and were shown only for year-round housing units. In the 1990 census, data were shown for all housing units while the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented data for occupied housing units only.

BATHTUB OR SHOWER

Data on Bathtub or shower were obtained from questionnaire item H15, which was asked for all occupied and vacant housing units. Bathtub or shower was counted only if the equipment was permanently connected to piped running water. Portable bathtubs were not included in the bathtub or shower category.

Answers to the question, *Do you have a bathtub or shower?* provided data on the number of housing units with bathtub or shower (a) inside the unit, (b) inside the building, outside the building, or with no bathtub or shower.

Comparability - Data on bathtub or shower were collected for the first time in 1970. In 1980, the data were shown separately as well as combined with data on water supply and flush toilet to identify the presence of complete plumbing facilities.

BEDROOMS

Data on bedrooms were obtained from questionnaire item 12, which was asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. The number of bedrooms was the count of rooms designed to be used as bedrooms; that is, the number of rooms that would be listed as bedrooms if the house or apartment were on the market for sale or for rent. Included were all rooms intended to be used as bedrooms even if they currently were being used for some other purpose. A housing unit consisting of only one room, such as a one-room efficiency apartment was classified, by definition, as having no bedroom. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented data on the number of bedrooms for all housing units, as well as for owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units.

Comparability - Data on bedrooms have been collected in every census since 1960. In 1970 and 1980, data for bedrooms were shown only for year-round units. In past censuses, a room was defined as a bedroom if it was used mainly for sleeping even if also used for other purposes. Rooms that were designed to be used as bedrooms but used mainly for other purposes were not considered to be

bedrooms. A distribution of housing units by number of bedrooms calculated from data collected in a 1986 U.S. test showed virtually no differences in the two versions except in the two-bedroom category, where the previous *use* definition showed a slightly lower proportion of units. In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, respondents were asked to provide a number for the count of bedrooms in the housing unit, whereas the 1990 census offered a range of 5 choices from *no bedroom* to *5 or more bedrooms*.

BOARDED-UP STATUS

Data on boarded-up status were obtained from questionnaire item C2 for all vacant housing units. Boarded-up units had windows and doors covered by wood, metal, or similar materials to protect the interior and to prevent entry into the building. A single-unit structure, a unit in a multi-unit structure, or an entire multi-unit structure may be boarded-up in this way. For certain census products, boarded-up units were shown only for units in the *Other vacant* category.

Comparability - Data on boarded-up status were collected for the first time in 1980 and was shown only for year-round vacant housing units.

BUSINESS ON PROPERTY

Data on business on property were obtained from questionnaire item H2b, which was asked for all occupied and vacant one-family houses and mobile homes. This question was used to exclude owner-occupied one-family houses with business or medical offices on the property from certain statistics on financial characteristics.

A business had to be easily recognizable from the outside. It will usually have a separate outside entrance and have the appearance of a business, such as grocery store, restaurant, or shop. It may either be attached to the house or mobile home or be located elsewhere on the property. Those housing units in which a room was used for business or professional purposes and have no recognizable alterations to the outside were not considered as having a business. Medical offices were considered businesses for tabulation purposes.

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations presented data on *business on property* for owner-occupied and renter-occupied one-family houses only.

Comparability - Data on business on property have been collected for Palau since the 1940 census.

COOKING FACILITIES

Data on cooking facilities were obtained from questionnaire item H17, which was asked for all occupied and vacant housing units. *Main cooking facilities* were the ones that were used most often for preparation of meals. They can be located inside or outside the building. *No cooking facilities* included those units with no cooking facilities available either inside or outside the building. The census tabulations presented data on cooking facilities for occupied housing units only.

Comparability - Data on cooking facilities were collected for the first time in 1970. In 1980, data for cooking facilities were shown for year-round and occupied housing units. In 1990, data were shown for all housing units. Also, the question on the type of cooking facilities was asked, to include the additional categories, *Microwave oven and non-portable burners* and *microwave oven only*. In 1995, only the question on microwave oven was asked.

GROSS RENT

Data on gross rent (also referred to as *cash rent*) were obtained from questionnaire item H5, which was asked for all occupied housing units that were rented for cash rent and all vacant housing units that were for rent at the time of enumeration.

Housing units that were renter-occupied without payment of cash rent were shown separately as *No cash rent* in census data products. The unit may be owned by friends or relatives who lived elsewhere and who allowed occupancy without charge. Rent-free houses or apartments may be provided to compensate caretakers, ministers, tenant farmers, sharecroppers, or others.

Gross rent, or cash rent, was the monthly rent agreed to or contracted for, regardless of any furnishings, utilities, fees, meals, or services that may be included. For vacant units, it was the monthly rent asked for the rental unit at the time of enumeration.

If the contract rent included rent for a business unit or for living quarters occupied by another household, the respondent was instructed to report that part of the rent estimated to be for his/her unit only. Respondents were asked to report rent only for the housing unit enumerated and to exclude any rent paid for additional units or for business premises.

If a renter paid rent to the owner of a condominium or cooperative, and the condominium fee or cooperative carrying charge was also paid by the renter to the owner, the respondent was instructed to include the fee or

carrying charge.

If a renter received payments from lodgers or roomers who were listed as members of the household, the respondent was instructed to report the rent without deduction for any payments received from the lodgers or roomers. The respondent was instructed to report the rent agreed to or contracted for even if paid by someone else such as friends or relatives living elsewhere, or a church or welfare agency.

In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations, data on gross rent was presented for all renter-occupied housing units with payment of cash rent.

Median Gross Rent - The median divides the rent distribution into two equal parts. In computing median gross rent, units reported as *No cash rent* were excluded. Median rent calculations were rounded to the nearest whole dollar. (For more information on medians, see the discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

Aggregate Gross Rent and Mean Gross Rent - To calculate aggregate gross rent, the actual values of cash rent reported for renter-occupied housing units were aggregated. Mean gross rent was obtained by dividing aggregate gross rent by the total number of renter-occupied housing units paying cash rent, and the value rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

Comparability - Data on this item have been collected since 1930.

COOKING FUEL

Data on cooking fuel were obtained from questionnaire item H18, which was asked for all occupied and vacant housing units. The data shown for the type of fuel used most for cooking were for occupied housing units only.

Electricity- included government provided electricity, power generators, etc., for stoves, ranges, etc.

Bottled and Tank Gas - included liquid propane gas stored in bottles or tanks which were refilled or exchanged when empty.

Fuel Oil, Kerosene, etc. - included fuel oil, kerosene, gasoline, alcohol and other combustible liquids.

Wood or Charcoal - included purchased wood or charcoal, wood cut by household members on their property or elsewhere, driftwood, sawmill or construction scraps, or the like.

Other Fuel - included all other fuels not specified elsewhere.

No Fuel Used - included units that did not use any fuel or that did not have kitchen facilities.

Comparability - Data on cooking fuel were collected for the first time in 1980.

DURATION OF VACANCY

Data for duration of vacancy (also referred to as *months vacant*) were obtained from questionnaire item D, which was completed by census enumerators. The statistics on duration of vacancy referred to the length of time (in months and years) between the date the last occupants moved from the unit and the time of enumeration. The data, therefore, do not provide a direct measure of the total length of time units remained vacant.

For newly constructed units which had never been occupied, the duration of vacancy was counted from the date construction was completed. For recently converted or merged units, the time was reported from the date conversion or merger was completed. Units occupied by an entire household with a usual home elsewhere were assigned to the *less than 1-month* interval.

Comparability - Similar data were collected in 1980. These data were shown in 1980 only for year-round housing units. In the 1990 census, these data were shown for vacant-for-sale and vacant-for-rent housing units. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey showed data only for vacant-for-rent-housing units.

GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 1996

Gross rent as a percentage of household income in 1996 was a computed ratio of monthly gross rent to monthly household income (total household income in 1996 divided by 12). The ratio was computed separately for each unit and was rounded to the nearest whole percentage. Units for which no cash rent was paid and units occupied by households that reported no income or a net loss in 1996 comprised the category *Not computed*.

KITCHEN FACILITIES

Data on kitchen facilities were obtained from questionnaire items H17 through H21, which were asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey question was similar with the 1990 census in that the kitchen facilities or stove and refrigerator were asked in two separate questions. A unit had *complete kitchen*

facilities when it had all of the following: (1) an installed sink with piped water, (2) a range, cook top and convection or microwave oven, or cook stove, and (3) a refrigerator. All kitchen facilities had to be located in the structure. They need not be in the same room. Portable cooking equipment was not considered a range or cook stove. An icebox was not considered to be a refrigerator.

Comparability - The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey followed censuses before 1990 that collected data on individual components, such as kitchen sink and type of refrigeration equipment. The 1995 tabulations showed data for occupied housing units only.

MORTGAGE STATUS

Data on mortgage status were obtained from questionnaire item H3, which was asked for owner-occupied housing units, condominiums, boats, and mobile homes. *Mortgage* referred to all forms of debt where the property was pledged as security for repayment of the debt. It included such debt instruments as deeds of trust, contracts to purchase, land contracts, junior mortgages and home equity loans.

A mortgage was considered a first mortgage if it had prior claim over any other mortgage or if it was the only mortgage on property. All other mortgages were considered junior mortgages. A home equity loan was generally a junior mortgage. If no first mortgage was reported, but a junior mortgage or home equity loan was reported, then the loan was considered a first mortgage. In most census tabulations, data for *Selected Monthly Owner Costs* and *Selected Monthly Owner Costs as Percentage of Household Income in 1996* were usually shown separately for units *with a mortgage* and for units *not mortgaged*. The category *not mortgaged* comprised of housing units owned free and clear of debt.

Comparability - The item was asked for the first time in 1980. In 1980, the mortgage status questions were asked at owner-occupied one-family houses on less than 3 acres. Excluded were mobile homes, boats, condominiums, houses with a business or medical office, houses on 3 or more acres, and housing units in multi-unit buildings. In 1995 and 1990, the questions were asked for all owner-occupied housing units. They were also asked at mobile homes, boats and houses with a business or medical office.

OTHER HOUSING EQUIPMENT

Data on battery-operated radio and television sets were obtained from questionnaire items H26 and H28, respectively, which were asked for all occupied housing units. Statistics on radio and television sets were in terms of the number of housing units having these particular items.

Included as *battery-operated radios* were car radios, transistors, and other battery-operated sets in working order or needing only a new battery for operation. Included as *television sets* were floor, table, built-in or portable models, or combinations with radios or record players, whether black and white or color, which were in working order or being repaired.

Comparability - Data on radio and television sets were collected for the first time in 1980. In 1980, data on radiosets included all types of radio sets, either electric or battery operated. In 1990 and 1995, however, only battery-operated radios were considered. Since 1980, there had been no change in the definition for television sets.

PERSONS IN UNIT

This item was based on the count of persons in occupied housing units. All persons occupying the housing unit were counted including the householder, occupants, related to the householder, and lodgers, roomers, boarders and so forth.

Data on persons in unit show the number of housing units occupied by the specified number of persons. The phrase *persons in unit* was used for housing tabulations; *persons in households* for population items. Figures for *persons in unit* determined those for *persons in household*.

Median Persons in Unit - In computing median persons in unit, a whole number was used as the mid-point of an interval; thus, a unit with 4 persons was treated as an interval ranging from 3.5 to 4.5 persons. Median persons were rounded to the nearest hundredth. (For information on medians, see the discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

Persons in Occupied Housing Units - This was the total population minus those living in quarters. *Persons per occupied housing unit* were computed by dividing the population living in housing units by the number of occupied housing units.

PERSONS PER ROOM

Persons per room were obtained by dividing the number of persons in each occupied housing unit by the number of rooms in the unit. Persons per room were rounded to

the nearest hundredth. The figures shown referred, therefore, to the number of occupied housing units having the specified ratio of persons per room.

Mean Persons per Room - This was computed by dividing the number of persons in housing units by the aggregate number of rooms, and was intended to provide a measure of use. A higher mean may indicate a greater degree of use or overcrowding; a low mean may indicate underused. (For more information on means, see the discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

PLUMBING FACILITIES

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey data on plumbing facilities were obtained from question items H13, H15 and H16, which were asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. All three questions provided data on the presence of hot and cold piped water, bathtub or shower, and flush toilet, respectively.

The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey questions were comparable to those asked in the 1990 census as these were used in classifying whether a housing unit had complete plumbing facilities or the lack of it. *Complete plumbing facilities* included hot and cold piped water, a flush toilet, and a bathtub or shower. All three facilities had to be located inside the house, apartment or mobile home, but not necessarily in the same room. Housing units were classified as *lacking complete plumbing facilities* when any of the three facilities were not present.

Comparability - The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey collected data on plumbing facilities in separate parts instead of complete plumbing, but after reconfiguring, comparability with the previous censuses was still possible. The 1990 data on complete plumbing facilities also were not strictly comparable with the 1980 data. In 1980, complete plumbing facilities were also not strictly comparable with the 1980 data. In 1980, complete plumbing facilities were defined as hot and cold piped water, a bathtub or shower, and a flush toilet in the housing unit for the exclusive use of the residents of that unit. In 1990, the US Census Bureau dropped the requirement of exclusive use from the definition of complete plumbing facilities. From 1940 to 1970, separate and more detailed questions were asked on piped water, bathing, and toilet facilities. In 1970 and 1980, the data on plumbing facilities were shown only for year-round housing units.

ROOMS

Data on rooms were obtained from questionnaire item H11, which was asked for both occupied and vacant

housing units. The statistics on rooms were in terms of the number of housing units with a specified number of rooms. The intent of this question was to count the number of whole rooms used for living purposes.

For each unit, rooms included living rooms, dining rooms, kitchens, bedrooms, finished recreation rooms, enclosed porches suitable for year-round use, and lodgers rooms. Excluded were strip or Pullman kitchens, bathrooms, open porches, balconies, halls or foyers, half-rooms, utility rooms, unfinished attics or basements, or other unfinished space used for storage. A partially divided room was a separate room only if a partition ran from floor to ceiling, but not if the partitioned consisted solely of shelves or cabinets.

Median Rooms - This measure divides the room distribution into two equal parts, one-half of the cases falling below the median number of rooms and one-half above the median. In computing median rooms, the whole number was used as the midpoint of the interval; thus, the category *3 rooms* was treated as an interval ranging from 2.5 to 3.5 rooms. Median rooms were rounded to the nearest hundredth. (for more information on medians, see the discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

Aggregate Rooms - To calculate aggregate rooms, the actual number of rooms reported for housing units were aggregated.

Comparability - Data on rooms have been collected since 1940. In 1970 and 1980, these data were shown only for year-round housing units. In the 1990 census, these data were shown for all housing units, and separately for owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations showed data for all housing units and separately for owner-occupied housing units only.

SELECTED MONTHLY OWNERS COSTS

Data on *Selected Monthly Owner Costs* were obtained from questionnaire items H25 through H30 for all occupied housing units. Selected monthly owner costs was the sum of payments for utilities (electricity, gas and water) and fuels (oil, coal, kerosene, wood, etc.)

In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey tabulations, selected monthly owner costs were presented only for specified-owner occupied housing units. Data usually were shown separately for units *with a mortgage* and for units *not mortgaged*.

Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs - This measure was rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

Comparability - The components of selected monthly owner costs were collected for the first time in 1980. The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey questions from which tabulations of selected monthly owner costs for specified owner-occupied housing units came differed from the 1990 and 1980 censuses as the costs for payments of mortgages; deeds of trust; contracts to purchase or other similar debts; real estate taxes; fire, hazard and insurance on property were not collected in the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey. In the 1980, 1990 and 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Surveys, costs for electricity and gas were collected as average monthly costs.

SELECTED MONTHLY OWNER COSTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 1996

Information on *Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income in 1996* was the computed ratio of selected monthly owner costs to monthly household income in 1996. The ratio was computed separately for each unit and rounded to the nearest whole percentage. The data were tabulated separately for specified owner-occupied housing units.

Separate distributions were often shown for units *with a mortgage* and for units *not mortgaged*. Units occupied by households reporting no income or a net loss in 1996 were included in the *not computed* category. (For more information, see the discussion under *Selected Monthly Owner Costs*.)

Comparability - The components of selected monthly owner costs were collected for the first time in 1980. The tabulations of *Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income in 1996* for specified owner-occupied housing units were not comparable to 1990 due to the respective differences in the components of selected monthly owner costs mentioned in the earlier section.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Data on sewage disposal were obtained from questionnaire item H23, which was asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Housing units were either connected to a public sewer, to a septic tank or cesspool, or disposal of sewage was by other means. A public sewer may be operated by a government body or by a private organization. A housing unit was considered to be connected to a septic tank or cesspool when the unit was provided with an underground pit or tank for sewage disposal. The category *Other means* included housing

units which disposed of sewage in some other way.

Comparability - Data on sewage disposal have been collected since 1940. In 1970 and 1980, data were shown only for year-round housing units. In the 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey, data were shown for occupied housing units while the 1990 census showed data for all housing units.

SOURCE OF WATER

Data on source of water were obtained from questionnaire item H22, which were asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Housing units may have received their water supply from a number of sources. A common source supplying water to 5 or more units was classified as a *public system only* or a *public system and cistern*. Another source of water may be a *cistern, tanks or drums only* in which rainwater was collected. A public standpipe was an elevated tank or vertical storage cylinder or street hydrant that was connected to a public system from which nearby residents draw water. The category *some other source* such as an individual well or spring included water obtained from creeks, rivers, lakes, etc.

Comparability - Data on source of water have been collected in every census since 1940. In 1970 and 1980, data were shown only for year-round housing units.

TELEPHONE IN HOUSING UNIT

Data on telephones were obtained from questionnaire item H29, which was asked for occupied housing units. A telephone had to be inside the house or apartment for the unit to be classified as having a telephone. Units where the respondent uses a telephone located inside the building but not in the respondent's living quarters were classified as having *no telephone*.

Comparability:-The 1997 Household Income and Expenditures Survey question was comparable to that in the 1990 census. It was a new item in the 1990 census.

TENURE

Data for tenure were obtained from questionnaire item H3, which was asked for all occupied housing units. All occupied housing units were classified as either owner-occupied or renter-occupied.

Owner-Occupied - A housing unit was owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lived in the unit even if it was mortgaged or not fully paid for. The owner or co-owner who lived in the unit was usually the person listed first in the questionnaire. The unit was *Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan* if it was being purchased with a mortgage or some other debt arrangement such as a deed of trust, trust deed, contract

to purchase, land contract, or purchase agreement. The unit was also considered owned with a mortgage if it was built on leased land and a mortgage existed on the unit.

A housing unit was *Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage)* if no mortgage or other similar debt was on the house, apartment, or mobile home including units built on leased land if the unit was owned outright without a mortgage. Although owner-occupied housing units were divided between mortgaged and owned-free and clear on the questionnaire, census tabulations show data only for total owner-occupied counts.

Renter-occupied - All occupied housing units which were not owner-occupied, whether they were rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, were classified as renter-occupied. *No cash rent* units were separately identified in the rent tabulations. Such units were generally provided free by friends or relatives or in exchange for services such as a resident manager, caretaker, minister, or tenant farmer. Housing units on military bases were also identified in the *No cash rent* category.

Rented for cash rent included units in continuing care, sometimes called life care arrangements. These arrangements usually involved a contract between one or more individuals and a health services provider guaranteeing the individual shelter, usually a house or apartment, and services such as meals or transportation to shopping or recreation.

Comparability - Data on tenure have been collected for Palau since 1930. In 1970, the question on tenure also included a category for condominium and cooperative ownership. In 1980, condominium units and cooperatives were dropped from the tenure item, and since 1980, only condominium units were identified in a separate question.

Since 1990, the response categories were expanded to allow the respondent to report whether the unit was owned with a mortgage or free and clear (without a mortgage). The distinction between units owned with a mortgage and units owned free and clear was added in 1990 to improve the count of owner-occupied units. Research after the 1980 census indicated some respondents did not consider their units owned if they had a mortgage.

TYPE OF MATERIAL USED FOR FOUNDATION

Data on the *Main Type of Material Used for the Foundation* of the structure were obtained from questionnaire item H10, which was asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Housing units were classified according to the type of material used *most* in the construction of the foundation of the structure,

which were as follows: *Poured concrete, Wood pier or pilings, and Other* for all other types of construction materials which were not included in any of the specific categories or if there was no foundation.

Comparability - Data on type of material used for foundation were collected for the first time in 1990. In 1995 and 1990, data were shown for all housing units.

TOILET FACILITIES

Data on toilet facilities were obtained from questionnaire item H16, which were asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Answers to the question, *Do you have a flush toilet?*, provided data on the number of housing units with *flush toilet* (a) inside the unit, (b) inside the building, outside the building; with *Outhouse or privy*; and *Other or none*.

A flush toilet consisted of any toilet connected to piped water and emptied into public sewer, septic tank, or cesspool.

Comparability - Data on toilet facilities were collected for the first time in 1970. In 1980, the data were not shown separately but were combined with data on water supply and bathtub or shower to determine the presence of complete plumbing facilities.

TYPE OF MATERIAL USED FOR OUTSIDE WALLS

Data in type of material used for outside walls of the structure were obtained from questionnaire item H8, which was asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Housing units were classified according to the type of material used *most* in the construction of outside walls of the structure, which were as follows: *Poured concrete, Concrete blocks, Metal, Wood, and Other* for all other types of construction materials which cannot be described by any of the specific categories.

Comparability - Data on materials for outside walls were collected since 1980 and were shown only for year-round housing units. In 1990, the category *thatch* was dropped from the type of materials used. In 1995 and 1990, data were shown for all housing units.

TYPE OF MATERIAL USED FOR ROOF

Data for type of material used for roof of the structure were obtained from questionnaire item H9, which was asked for both occupied and vacant housing units. Housing units were classified according to the type of material used *most* in the construction of the roof of the

structure, which were as follows: *Poured concrete, Metal, Wood, Thatch* which included sugar cane leaves, palm or pandanus thatch, palm leaves, straw, etc., and *Other* for all other types of construction materials which cannot be described by any of the specific categories.

Comparability - Data on type of materials used for roofs were collected for the first time in 1980 and were shown only for year-round housing units. In 1995 and 1990, data were shown for all housing units.

UNITS IN STRUCTURE

Data on units in structure (also referred as *type of structure*) were obtained from questionnaire item H2a, which was asked for all housing units. A structure was a separate building that either had open spaces on all sides or was separated from other structures by dividing walls that extended from ground to roof. In determining the number of units in a structure, all housing units, both occupied and vacant, were counted. Stores and office space were excluded.

Statistics were presented for the number of housing units in structures of specified type and size, and not for the number of residential buildings.

1-Family House, Detached - This was a 1-unit structure detached from any other any other structure; that is, with open space on all four sides. Such structures were considered detached even if they had an adjoining shed or garage. A one-family house that contained a business was considered detached as long as the building has open space on all four sides. Mobile homes or trailers to which one or more permanent rooms had been added or built were also included.

1-Family House, Attached - This was a 1-unit structure which had one or more walls extending from ground to roof separating it from adjoining structures. In rowhouses (sometimes called townhouses), duplex houses, or houses attached to non-residential structures, each house was a separate, attached structure if the dividing or common wall goes from ground to roof.

2 or More Units - These were units in structures/buildings containing 2 or more housing units, further categorized as units in structures/buildings with 2, 3 or 4, 5 to 9, 10 to 19, and 20 or more units.

Other - This category was for any living quarters occupied as a housing unit that did not fit the previous categories. Examples that fitted into this category were

abandoned cars, tents, campers, and vans.

Comparability - Data on units in structure/building have been collected for Palau since 1940, on mobile homes and trailers since 1950, and on boats since 1980. In 1970 and 1980, these data were shown only for year-round housing units. Since 1990, these data were shown for all housing units. The category *Tent, van, etc.* was replaced in 1990 by the category *Other*.

USUAL HOME ELSEWHERE

Data for usual home elsewhere were obtained from questionnaire item 1b, which was completed by census enumerators. A housing unit temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by persons with a usual residence elsewhere was classified as *vacant*. The occupants were classified as having a *Usual home elsewhere* and were counted at the address of their usual place of residence. Typical examples were people in a vacation home and persons renting living quarters temporarily for work.

Limitation of the Data - Evidence from previous censuses suggests that in some area enumerators marked units as *vacant-usual home elsewhere* when they should have marked *vacant-regular*.

Comparability - Data for usual home elsewhere were tabulated for the first time in the 1980 census.

UTILITIES

Data on electric power were obtained from questionnaire item H25, which was asked for all housing units. The census tabulations, however, presented data on electric power for occupied housing units only.

Data on utility costs were obtained from questionnaire item H25, which were asked for all occupied housing units. Question H25 and H30 asked for the monthly cost of utilities (electricity, gas and water) and other fuel (coal, wood, kerosene, etc.) The average monthly costs were included in the computation of *Selected Monthly Owner Costs and Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a Percentage of Household Income in 1996*.

Costs were recorded if paid by or billed to occupants, a welfare agency, relatives, or friends. Costs that were paid by landlords, included in the rent payment, or included in condominium or cooperative fees were excluded.

Limitation of the Data - Research has shown that respondents tended to overstate their expenses for electricity and gas when compared to utility company records.

Comparability - Data on utilities were collected for the first time in the 1980 census.

VACANCY STATUS

Data on vacancy status were obtained from questionnaire item C1, which was completed by census enumerators. Vacancy status and other characteristics of vacant units were determined by enumerators obtaining information from landlords, owners, rental agents, and others. Vacant units were subdivided according to their housing market classification as follows:

For rent - These were vacant units offered *for rent* and vacant units offered either *for rent* or *for sale*.

For sale only - These were vacant units being offered *for sale only* including units in cooperatives and condominium projects if the individual units were offered *for sale only*.

Rented or Sold, Not Occupied - If any money rent had been paid or agreed upon but the new renter had not moved in as of the date of enumeration, or if the unit had recently been sold but the new owner had not yet moved in, the vacant unit was classified as *rented or sold, not occupied*.

For Seasonal, Recreational, or Occasional Use - These were vacant units used or intended for use only in certain seasons or for weekend or other occasional use throughout the year. Seasonal units included those used for summer or winter sports or recreation, such as beach cottages and hunting cabins. Seasonal units also included quarters for workers such as herders and loggers. Interval ownership units, sometimes called shared ownership or time-sharing condominiums, were also included here.

Other Vacant - If a vacant unit did not fall into any of the classifications specified above, it was classified as *other vacant*. For example, this category included units held for occupancy by a caretaker or janitor, and units held for personal reasons of the owner.

Homeowner Vacancy Rate - This was the percentage relationship between the number of vacant units for sale and the total homeowner inventory. It was computed by dividing the number of vacant units for sale only by the sum of the owner-occupied units and the number of vacant units that were for sale only.

Rental Vacancy Rate - This was the percentage relationship of the number of vacant units for rent to the total rental inventory. It was computed by dividing the number of vacant units for rent by the sum of the renter-occupied units and the number of vacant units for rent.

Comparability - Data on vacancy status have been collected since the 1940 census. For 1990, the category

Seasonal/recreational/occasional use combined vacant units classified in 1980 as *seasonal* and *held for occasional use*. Also, in 1970 and 1980, housing characteristics were generally presented only for year-round housing units. In the 1995 and 1990 censuses, housing characteristics were shown for all vacant housing units.

VALUE

Data on *Value* (also referred to as *price asked* for vacant units) were obtained from questionnaire item H4a, which was asked for housing units that were owned, being bought, or vacant for sale at the time of enumeration. Value was the respondent's estimate of how much the property (house and lot, mobile home and lot or condominium unit) would sell for if it were for sale. If the house or mobile home was owned or being bought, but not the land, the respondent was asked to estimate the combined value of the house or mobile home and the land. For vacant units, value was the price asked for the property.

Value was tabulated for *specified owner-occupied housing units* only. Specified owner-occupied housing units included only one-family houses without a business or medical office on the property. The data for *specified* units excluded mobile homes, houses with a business or medical office, and housing units in multi-unit buildings.

Median Value - The median divides the value distribution into two equal parts. This measure was rounded to the nearest hundred dollars. (For more information on medians, see the discussion under *Derived Measures*.)

Aggregate Value and Mean Value - To calculate *aggregate value*, the actual values of housing units owned, being bought or vacant-for-sale were aggregated. *Mean value* was obtained by dividing the aggregate value by the total number of housing units owned, being bought or vacant for sale and was rounded to the nearest hundred dollars.

Comparability - In 1980, *value* was asked only at owner-occupied or vacant-for sale one-family houses on less than 3 acres with no business or medical office on the property and at all owner-occupied or vacant-for-sale condominium housing units. Mobile homes were excluded.

In 1990, the question was asked for all owner-occupied or vacant-for-sale-only housing units with no exclusions.

Value data were presented for specified owner-occupied housing units only.

VEHICLES AVAILABLE

Data on vehicles available were obtained from questionnaire item H24a, which was asked for occupied housing units. These data showed the number of households with a specified number of passenger cars, vans, and pick-up or panel trucks of one-ton capacity or less kept at home and available for the use of household members. Vehicles rented or leased for one month or more, company vehicles, and police and government vehicles were included if kept at home and used for non-business purposes. Dismantled or immobile vehicles were excluded. Vehicles kept at home but used only for business purposes were also excluded.

Vehicles per Household - This was computed by dividing aggregate number of vehicles available by the number of occupied housing units.

Comparability - Data on automobiles available were collected for the first time in the 1980 census.

YEAR HOUSEHOLDER MOVED INTO UNIT

Data on *Year Householder Moved into Unit* were obtained from questionnaire item H6, which was asked for occupied housing units. These data referred to the year of the latest move by the householder. If a householder moved back into a housing unit he/she previously occupied, the year of the latest move was reported. If the householder moved from one apartment to another within the same building, the year the householder moved into the present apartment was reported. The intent was to establish the year the present occupancy by the householder began. The year that the householder moved in was not necessarily the same year other members of the household moved, although in the great majority of cases an entire household moved at the same time.

Comparability - In 1960 and 1970, this question was asked of every person and included in population reports. This item in housing tabulations referred to the year the householder moved in. In 1995, the question was asked only of the householder, as was done in 1980 and 1990.

YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT

Data on *Year Structure Built* were obtained from questionnaire item H7, which was asked for both